Climate Impact Assessment

RIV-8089-25

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Riverside SEND Satellite provision phase 2

Project details

Assessment author

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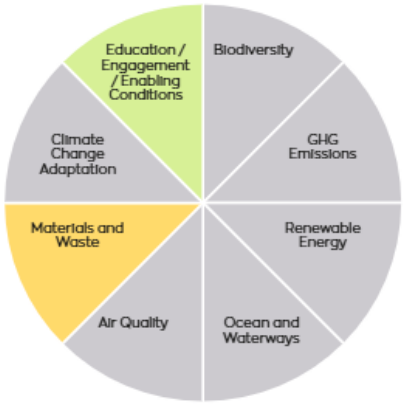
Project summary

To remodel an underutilised space at Riverside Community School to provide much needed Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) spaces for children currently allocated to Mill Ford school, which does not have the capacity (space and welfare provision) to currently manage them safely or effectively on the existing site. This is against a backdrop of the LA having a legal obligation to provide the necessary school places.

Summary of assessment



1 Long term or significant negative impact

2 Short term or minor negative impact

3 No impact or neutral impact

4 Short term or minor positive impact

5 Long term or significant positive impact

The assessment overall identifies no discernible medium or long term negative impacts. There may, for a very short time, be a increase in packaging materials these will be responsibly disposed of and recycled accordingly. The proposal utilise existing buildings and resources and minimise waste and also does not require the construction of new building or infrastructure. The school is well placed through their pupils and local community engagement to champion Climate change issues associated with reducing waste and recycling.

Assessment scores

Biodiversity

Score

(3) No impact or neutral impact

Score justification

This project will not alter the fabric of the building internally or externally. There are are no structural alterations to the internal elements . There are no changes to the heating lighting internally, or habitat externally with no change in use of the building or grounds . it will not add any dangerous pathogens or invasive species or change in species or biodiversity. Nature conservation/enhancement is not a key aim for this project, however it does avoid constructing new buildings on either virgin or brown sites

GHG Emissions

Score

(3) No impact or neutral impact

Score justification

This proposal will have no impact. it is repurposing areas that are currently under utilised, but in use and require servicing such as heating and lighting etc. The new use will not increase this load or change the requirements and thus is not increasing or decreasing greenhouse gas emissions. The number of pupils accommodated in the space will be less than the buildings currently accommodates and thus will be marginally better. This is a relatively new school and had climate a biodiversity measures implemented at the time of construction which will not be diminished in any way by the proposal .

Renewable Energy

Score

(3) No impact or neutral impact

Score justification

This project will not increase or decrease the provision of renewable energy or use of waste energy in Plymouth as it is a change of pupil designation within an existing school that will be more effectively and efficiently utilised.

Ocean and Waterways

Score

(3) No impact or neutral impact

Score justification

This project should not have any affect on water quality or affect the amount of water needing to be treated as sewage. There is already sufficient infrastructure or mitigation solutions such as sustainable drainage in place . it will not however create new or improved marine/aquatic habitats or remove or damage existing habitats in any way as its primary usage function and daily operation all remains unchanged.This project will not increase or decrease in the level of pollutants such as litter, plastics or chemicals in the environment

Air Quality

Score

(3) No impact or neutral impact

Score justification

This project will not lead to an increase or decrease in air emissions or particulates from any plant (e.g. heating systems) as the primary usage and operation is not changing. This project will not improve or degrade indoor or external air quality

Materials and Waste

Score

(2) Short term or limited negative impact

Score justification

This project will not create or reduce the waste volumes in the city. There is unlikely to be any construction/ demolition waste as we are not undertaking any demolition, There are no one off elements requiring heavy packaging planned. This will not impact on the public realm through increased littering and pollution as its contained site that is serviced regularly.
The existing resources and structures will be fully reused in this project in order to reduce onward waste. Recycled and/or low carbon materials will be sourced instead of virgin materials where possible or practicable , although this will be largely due to what items and materials are available as most of the equipment is bespoke.
All existing and new equipment will be utilised on the existing site, it would not however be disposed of (unless faulty, damaged or beyond repair) and would be re-utilised in either the main school or wider SEND Estate, if it was no longer required at this facility . There is likely to be a minimal short term increase in some waste materials such as packaging, off cuts and associated refinishing materials. There is no demolition or major construction elements that would create anything more than minor waste. All wast will be manged sustainably.
On completion of the works, it is unlikely that the waste produced in operation will be any different form the current situation. There may be a few more nappies to be disposed of on the site, however as there is no longer nursery provision (that created nappies for disposal in the past) and the pupils in nappies have moved from the main school site this should have a neutral overall impact on waste .

Climate Change Adaptation

Score

(3) No impact or neutral impact

Score justification

The vulnerability of this project to climate change impacts remain unchanged from when the school was built. It will not make Plymouth more or less resilient to the anticipated effects of climate change This project will not lead to changes in the risk of flooding as the mitigation measures install during the building of the school remains unchanged.

Education / Engagement / Enabling Conditions

Score

(4) Short term or limited positive impact

Score justification

This project in itself will not directly help to educate and or engage residents or businesses about the climate emergency and actions to take and/or the biodiversity crisis

However the pupils and staff who use this space will be educated and actively encouraged to embrace sustainability,biodiversity and climate change which then permeates back via the pupils and the school to parents, residents and businesses

Will this project increase or decrease the capacity of residents and businesses to adopt climate friendly behaviours? (e.g. through increased cycling or walking facilities, availability of green products and services, access to low carbon food systems or increased green skills provision) The schools champion the climate change and work actively to promote this both throughout the school and to the wider community as a whole and schools like Riverside are a part of the central hub of the community and can champion the climate